UCSF
Newsbreak
News for the UCSF Campus Community VOL. 11, NO. 14 AUGUST 23, 1996

INSIDE

3 TB control programs can be counterproductive, study says
8 UCSF Medical Center ranks seventh in US, SFGH rates tops in AIDS care
8 UCSF, California Pacific combine medical groups

Coping with central freeway closure

By LISA CISNEROS

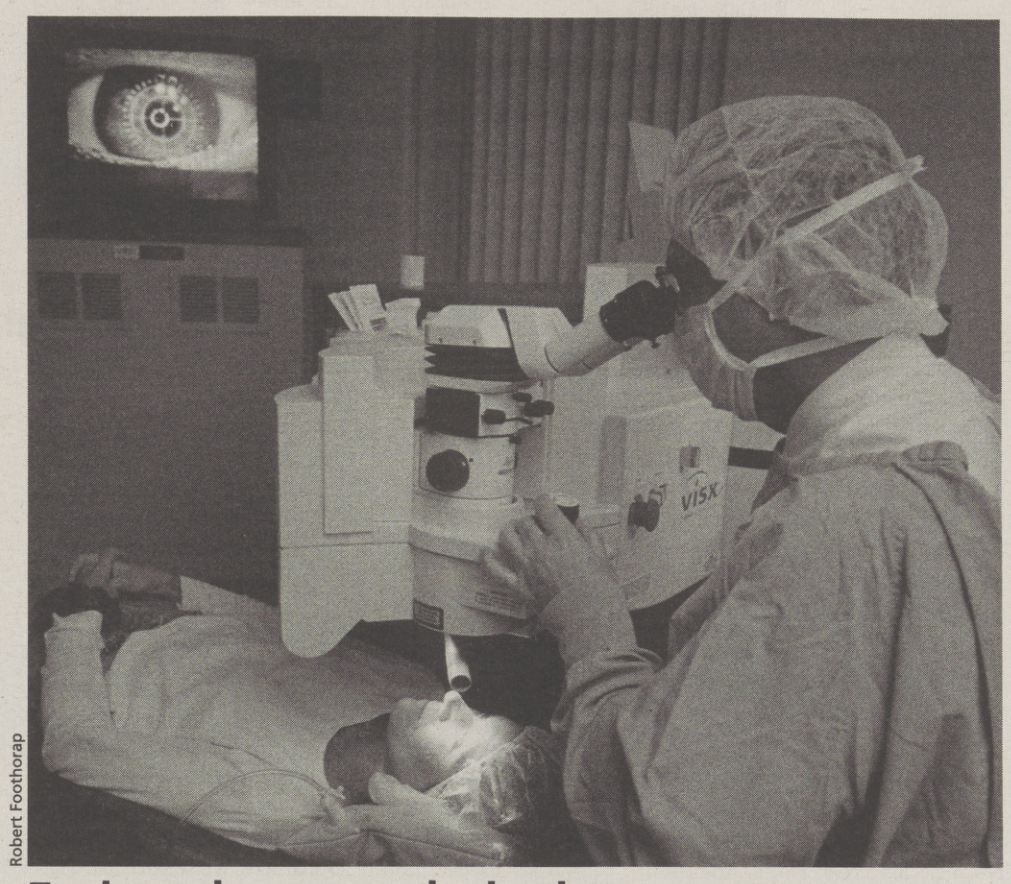
Under ordinary circumstances, driving west across the Bay Bridge — one of the world's busiest spans — can be brutal, especially during peak traffic hours. But tear down part of the central freeway and detour thousands of motorists and the commute into San Francisco could be chaotic.

Damaged by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, portions of the double-decked section of the central freeway (the elevated freeway connecting Interstate 80 and US Highway 101) between Mission and Laguna streets will be demolished. An estimated 80,000 drivers use this portion of the central freeway each day.

Although this section was reinforced immediately after the temblor, it needs to be brought up to current seismic safety standards or be replaced. Removal of the upper deck is the first step in this construction process, according to Caltrans.

As a result, the Oak and Fell ramps will close at 12:01 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 25. With these well-traversed ramps closed, traffic could clog the few remaining ramps. Caltrans offers this advice: if you're coming into San Francisco from

(See **Traffic** on page 7)



Robert Foothorap

Excimer laser revolutionizes eye surgery

Richard Abbott, UCSF professor of ophthalmology, uses a new excimer laser to reshape the cornea of Kimberly Hodes, one of the first UCSF patients to have her nearsightedness corrected with the revolutionary tool. For more information about the excimer laser, call the UCSF Vision Correction Center at 476-5021.

Study finds evidence MS can be inherited

By JEFF NORRIS

An international research team using sophisticated statistical techniques and strict diagnostic guidelines has homed in on DNA regions that may house genes that can cause people to become susceptible to multiple sclerosis (MS).

The researchers say their study provides strong evidence that an elevated risk for MS, a disabling neurologic disorder that affects more than a million people worldwide, can be inherited. There is no cure, and few drugs treat MS.

Specific causes of MS remain a mystery, but epidemiological evidence points to an increased risk of MS among relatives of those affected — suggesting a genetic cause.

Environmental influences also appear to play a role in MS, since only one-third of genetically identical twins among persons with the disease also develop MS, researchers found. In addition, the disease is more common in temperate climates.

Scientists identified 19 candidate regions resulting from a search spanning all the DNA contained in the human genome. No gene within any of these regions is likely to act alone to cause MS, the researchers reported in the August issue of Nature Genetics, but some of these regions are likely to contain genes that may act with other genes and environmental factors to bring about MS.

All the DNA segments linked to MS in this study contain scores of genes, and more research is needed before any specific genes can be implicated in MS.

The study is part of continuing research by the Multiple Sclerosis Genetics Group, four collaborating research teams from UCSF, Massachusetts General Hospital, Duke University and Genethon, a Laboratory of the French Muscular Dystrophy Association.

(See **MS** on page 2)

UCSF research links KS to sexually transmitted virus

By JEFF NORRIS

A new test developed by researchers at UCSF strongly implicates a sexually transmitted virus in the development of Kaposi's sarcoma (KS), the most common cancer of AIDS patients.

The results, presented in the August issue of Nature Medicine, raise hopes that KS might be prevented if effective drugs or vaccines can be identified or developed to counter human herpes virus 8 (HHV8), a recently discovered virus that is detectable in KS tumors.

The researchers developed a blood test for HHV8 infection based on detection of immune antibodies to the virus, and then analyzed blood from 913 individuals, including 528 who were HIV-positive and 385 who were HIV-negative.

The UCSF team detected HHV8 infection most frequently in blood samples from individuals with sexually transmitted diseases, a clear indicator of sexual activity. These groups included homosexuals with HIV infection and clinic visitors with syphilis.

"The results of this epidemiological study strongly suggest that HHV8 is sexually transmitted," says Don Ganem, professor of medicine and microbiology at UCSF, an investigator with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and the leader of the laboratory team. "Our new findings also provide additional evidence indicating that HHV8 infection plays an important role in KS."

Dean H. Kedes, an HHMI postdoctoral fellow in Ganem's lab at UCSF, determined that among the persons whose blood was tested, the incidence of HHV8 infection was highest, 30 percent, in homosexual men who became infected with HIV through sex. The next highest incidence of HHV8 infec-

(See **KS** on page 3)

UC releases new admissions guidelines

UC recently released new guidelines that eliminate the use of race and gender preferences in admissions.

Listed below are the final guidelines for implementation of new admissions criteria that were developed in response to the UC Regents' vote on July 20, 1995 to abolish admissions preferences based on race, ethnicity or gender. The new guidelines:

- Revise UC's admission's policy so that no less than 50 percent and no more than 75 percent of the regularly admitted class will be selected solely on the basis of academic achievement.
- Expand academic criteria beyond grades and test scores to provide a more rounded and objective view of an applicant's academic achievements and potential.
- Expand supplemental criteria to provide a more comprehensive assessment of personal traits, accomplishments and experiences demonstrating applicant's promise to be a valuable contributor to the University.
- Enable campus admissions officers to make decisions based on a broad array of information with the objective of building a high achieving and diverse UC student body.

Each campus will develop its own criteria within the framework of the guidelines. Campus guidelines will be reviewed by the Office of the President prior to implementation. The new guidelines take effect in the spring quarter of 1998 and in the fall term 1998 for the Berkeley campus, which is on the semester system. Meanwhile, a UCSF group plans a series of events to promote diversity on campus. (See page 5.)

Fleas spread 'cat scratch disease' bacteria

By REBECCA HIGBEE

Researchers at UCSF and UC Davis say the common flea is to blame for transmitting among cats a bacteria that can lead to a life-threatening disease in people with weakened immune systems.

"While a cat scratch may be the most common vehicle for transmitting *Bartonella henselae* from felines to humans, the common cat flea now appears to be the most frequent way of transmitting the infection between cats," says Jane Koehler, UCSF assistant professor of medicine in the Division of Infectious Disease.

This finding is important because it explains the prevalence of the organism in the cat population — up to 41 percent of cats are infected in the San Francisco Bay Area — and it provides an alert to immunosuppressed people who own cats.

"In people with healthy immune systems, cat scratch disease can cause skin irritation, swollen lymph nodes and slight fever," says Koehler, who adds that these symptoms disappear on their own in most cases.

But in HIV-infected people, *B. henselae* can cause a rare, potentially fatal yet curable infection called bacillary angiomatosis. The disorder causes blood vessels to grow out of control and form tumor-like masses in bone, liver and skin. These lesions look like those caused by Kaposi's sarcoma.

"Physicians should be on the lookout for this condition," Koehler says, "particularly among HIV-positive patients who are cat owners."

Koehler does not recommend that people with weakened immune systems give up their pet cats. Instead, she recommends that patients inform their physicians that they own cats. They should also avoid getting scratched, wash all scratches thoroughly with soap and water, and practice flea control as much as possible.

Cats infected with the bacteria display no symptoms and do not appear to be harmed by the organism.

Transmission from fleas to humans has not been documented, but requires further study, she says. *B. henselae* is responsible for 22,000 cases of Cat Scratch Disease (CSD) among humans in the nation every year, resulting in $12 million in health care costs. But Koehler and Bruno Chomel, an epidemiologist at

(See **Cat** on page 2)

Gazette

Honors & Awards

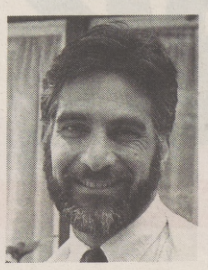
Lynne S. Steinbach, radiology: Received 1996 President's Medal, International Skeletal Society; named fellow, American College of Radiology.

Steinbach

Marylin J. Dodd, physiological nursing: Received the 1996 Oncology/Biotech Excellence in Cancer Nursing Research Award, Oncology Nursing Society/ Schering.

Valli McDougle, Public Affairs, and **Elizabeth Blackburn,** microbiology & immunology: Received a CINE Golden Eagle Award for the video "On Becoming a Scientist," part of a series entitled "Winding Your Way Through DNA."

Todd P. Margolis, ophthalmology and Proctor Foundation: Received the Lew R. Wasserman Merit Award for $50,000, Research to Prevent Blindness Inc.

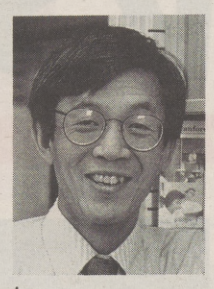

Margolis

Charles A. Gooding, radiology and pediatrics: Named president-elect, Society for Pediatric Radiology; named honorary member, Indonesian Radiological Society.

Stanley B. Prusiner, neurology, biochemistry & biophysics: Received the Charles Leopold Mayer Prize, French Academy of Science; received the 1996 Keio International Award for Medical Sciences, Keio University, Tokyo.

Clinton names Lo to bioethics commission

Bernard Lo, professor of medicine and director of UCSF's Program in Medical Ethics, is one of 15 people chosen by President Bill Clinton to serve on the National Bioethics Advisory Commission.


Lo

The commission's charge is to "provide guidance to federal agencies on the ethical conduct of current and future human biological and behavioral research." The group, which will meet for the first time on Friday, Oct. 4, in Washington DC, will first consider protection of the rights and welfare of human research subjects.

Next, it will turn to issues in management and use of genetic information, including, but not limited to, human gene patenting.

"I'm hoping we'll work with the NIH and the FDA, who have responsibility for guidelines for human subject research, on areas where they think current guidelines are out-of-date or lacking," says Lo.

"I'm also hopeful there will be agreement on these subjects before tackling the more controversial subject of genetics," he adds.

Lo's own research focuses on decisions regarding life-sustaining interventions, ethical issues regarding HIV infection, and the doctor-patient relationship in managed care.

Appointments

Charles J. Alexander: Appointed director, student academic affairs, School of Dentistry. He comes to UCSF from Marquette University in Milwaukee where he worked in the School of Dentistry for 11 years in student recruitment and academic support programs. Most recently, Alexander was the director of the Office of Multicultural Concerns at Marquette. He serves as president of the National Association of Medical Minority Educators and was past president of the Wisconsin Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel.

Alexander

Alexander's responsibilities in his new position include directing student admissions, recruitment and academic assistance programs. His primary goal is to increase and broaden the student applicant pool in the School of Dentistry. He also plans to develop outreach efforts that will foster partnerships with area high schools to encourage students — particularly underrepresented minorities — to prepare for careers in the health professions.

Private Support

UCSF is pleased to acknowledge the following listing of gifts/pledges of $25,000 or more from individuals, corporations and foundations received July 1-31, 1996.

$1,000,000 or more
Edward G. Ageno
Radiometer A/S

$500,000 - $999,999
Mr. and Mrs. L. John Doerr
Estate of Helen M. Schoeneman

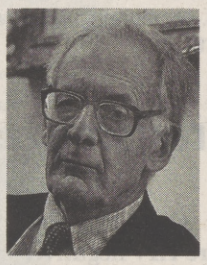
$100,000 - $499,999
Anonymous
Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Pfizer Inc.
Philips Medical Systems Inc.
The Prairie Foundation
Schering Aktienesellschaft & Company
Nora Eccles Treadwell Foundation
The Whitaker Foundation

$25,000 - $99,999
Arthritis Foundation
California Community Foundation
Curtis Day
Max Kade Foundation
Estate of Genevieve E. Landon
Ortho Pharmaceutical Corporation
Pacific Vascular Research Foundation
The Pew Charitable Trusts
Mr. and Mrs. Pratap Sapra
Scientific Consulting Inc.

UCSF honors Severinghaus, Radiometer

Anesthesia today is many times safer than it was 25 years ago, in part due to improved monitoring. Care of critically ill patients also has been improved by the ability to analyze arterial blood gases. A major contributor to this progress in patient care is UCSF professor emeritus of anesthesia John W. Severinghaus.

His name was recently given to a new UCSF fellowship in anesthesia research and to the newly redeveloped 3,000-square-foot Anesthesia Laboratory, together with the name of Radiometer, a medical and scientific instrument company serving both hospitals and industry. Headquartered just outside Copenhagen, Denmark with subsidiaries in the US and elsewhere, Radiometer pledged support of $1.1 million over the next three years.


Severinghaus

UCSF honored Radiometer and Severinghouse at an Aug. 8 dinner in San Francisco with more than 150 attendees. The department of anesthesia, now numbering 84 faculty members, was out in force. Ronald Miller, department chair, served as master of ceremonies to acknowledge Severinghaus' contribution to medicine and UCSF.

When Severinghaus came to UCSF in 1958, the department was just being created with four faculty members and the Cardiovascular Research Institute (CVRI) was only a year old. Severinghaus went on to head anesthesiology research at the CVRI for the next 33 years as well as serving as anesthesiologist at Moffitt/Long operating rooms, teaching anesthesia and physiology to residents and guiding postdoctoral laboratory researchers.

He has earned international recognition and awards for his rare ability not only to solve problems theoretically, but also to devise and build practical devices, one of which is housed at the Smithsonian and is used in hospitals worldwide. Severinghaus developed that piece of equipment — the world's first blood gas analysis machine — to measure oxygen, carbon dioxide and blood acidity during surgery.

Without frequent monitoring of how well the lungs are oxygenating the blood, infants with breathing difficulties and all kinds of surgical patients could suffer brain damage or death from lack of oxygen.

To obtain precise blood gas measurements during surgery, Severinghaus and his colleagues introduced the computer to anesthesiology. The first system installed in 1977 in operating rooms allowed anesthesiologists to see immediate figures on the patient's gases inside the airways.

"Knowing precisely what is in the patient is one of the things that helped anesthesia become a lot safer," Severinghaus says. "The mortality rate from anesthesia is now down to about one in a million anesthetics."

Despite official retirement in 1991, Severinghaus continues full-time research at UCSF. The new UCSF Radiometer/Severinghaus Fellowship will begin soon.

— Nina Beckwith

MS (from page 1)

"Once the genes conferring genetic susceptibility are identified, the proteins they make can be rapidly determined," says Stephen L. Hauser, principal investigator at UCSF. "That in turn will lead us to the biochemical pathway whereby an individual becomes at risk for MS."

Abe Eastwood, director of research and grants for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, a sponsor of the research, adds that, "Knowledge of how faulty proteins are involved in the disease should also provide a means for diagnosing MS and give us radical new ideas for how to prevent or treat this devastating disorder."

In MS, the immune system mistakenly attacks the insulating sheath that surrounds many nerves in the brain and spinal cord. Loss of this insulating material, called myelin, leads to faulty signaling by the nerves, and may cause symptoms that include blurry vision, fatigue, numbness, loss of movement, memory impairment and difficulties with bladder, bowel and sexual function.

In some patients MS progresses gradually over years or decades, sometimes to the point where they become bedridden. But in others, MS may go into remission for days, months or years before patients relapse with the same or with new symptoms. MS patients can relapse and remit repeatedly.

Since MS is an autoimmune disease, and approved and experimental treatments for MS work by influencing the immune system, scientists have previously looked for an association between MS and genes that regulate the immune system, but these studies were inconclusive. And while some scientists have suspected that myelin protein genes might be related to MS susceptibility, this study makes that possibility less likely, researchers say. Researchers detected no association between MS and a DNA segment containing the gene that encodes myelin.

Rather than targeting specific genes in which certain genetic variants have been suspected to play a role in MS, the researchers decided to start from scratch and to evaluate the entire complement of human DNA. To do this, they analyzed the genetic makeup of members of 75 families in which at least two members have MS.

MS is frequently misdiagnosed, but Hauser and his colleague Donald Goodkin, director of the UCSF/Mount Zion Multiple Sclerosis Center, selected the families from throughout the US according to strict diagnostic criteria, ensuring that the affected individuals actually had MS and not other neurological problems with similar symptoms.

The researchers obtained blood from 643 individuals, persons with MS as well as unaffected relatives. UCSF researchers in a group led by Jorge Oksenberg extracted DNA from the blood samples for use in identifying any DNA sequences that might appear in people with the disease but not in those who were unaffected. Members from all four research teams participated in mapping the DNA.

Sponsors of the research include the Mathers Foundation, the Rita Allen Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the US Public Health Service, l'Association Francaise contre les Myopathies and l'Association Francaise des Scleroses en Plaques.

Cat (from page 1)

the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, discourage the mass screening and treating of infected cats as a control method for several reasons. "Although there appears to be a huge number of cats infected, the number of people who actually get CSD is relatively small," Koehler says. "And CSD is almost always a benign infection in people with an intact immune system and resolves without antibiotic treatment."

The UC research team will be conducting further studies of animals and patients to increase their understanding of *B. henselae* and how it is spread. The research of Koehler, a Pew Scholar in the biomedical sciences at UCSF, is supported by the Universitywide AIDS Research Program, the National Institutes of Health and the Pierre Richard Dick-Vibrac Foundation for Animal Research.

UCSF Newsbreak

(ISSN0891-6063) Volume 11, Number 14, Aug. 24–Sept. 13 1996 (three weeks). Published by the University of California, 3333 California Street, Suite 103, San Francisco, CA, 94143-0462, 21 issues per year— bi-weekly, except monthly during July, August and December. Second-class postage paid at San Francisco, CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to UCSF Newsbreak, Public Affairs, University of California San Francisco, Laurel Heights, 3333 California Street, Suite 103, San Francisco, CA 94143-0462.

Deadline for the next issue, which will cover Sept. 14–Sept. 27, 1996, will be on **Friday, Aug. 30, at 11 a.m.**

Please send campus and Medical Center news to Lisa Cisneros, 476-3256 or lisa_cisneros@quickmail.ucsf.edu, and calendar and gazette items to Brad Foss, 476-3163 or brad_foss@quickmail.ucsf.edu both at Box 0462; fax 476-3541. Last-minute copy may be taken over the telephone by calling the above telephone numbers. The University of California is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. UCSF fully ascribes to the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need to view this communication in an alternate format, please contact Lisa Cisneros at 476-3256 with your suggestions.

Editor: Lisa Cisneros

Calendar, Gazette Editor: Michele Firpo

Assistant Editor: Daniel Rowe

Production Assistant: Jane Bennighof

Additional Photography: Allen Balderson (2), Michele Firpo (2), Robert Foothorap (2)

Judith Woodard, assistant vice chancellor, Public Affairs Carol Fox, Jeff Miller, assistant directors, Public Affairs

PRINTED WITH SOYBEAN INKS

This publication is printed on recycled paper using soybean-based inks.

TB programs can be counterproductive

By ALICE TRINKL

A UCSF study has demonstrated that poorly managed tuberculosis control programs can be counterproductive by causing as many or more cases of drug-resistant tuberculosis as they cure cases of non-drug-resistant TB.

"If you have a poor control program, with either a high probability of treatment failure or you are using drugs that are not efficacious for treating drug resistant tuberculosis, then you should not bring more people into it. It is not true that any control program is better than no program," said Sally Blower, UCSF associate professor of epidemiology, biostatistics and medicine at SFGH. Blower is the lead author of a study published in the July 26 issue of Science.

The study was funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), part of the National Institutes of Health.

"There are two reasons why cases of drug resistance occur," explains Blower. "One is due to the direct effect of bad treatment programs while the other is due to their indirect effect. The direct effect of poor treatment can cause drug resistance to evolve due to patient noncompliance or to inappropriate kinds of treatment. Then these cases of drug resistance can transmit drug-resistant TB directly to susceptible people. This is the indirect effect."

Tuberculosis is both preventable and curable but the disease still causes more adult deaths worldwide than any other infectious disease because many of the current TB control programs around the world need improvement and may cause the evolution of TB strains that are resistant to drugs.

The researchers designed a mathematical model that provides a theoretical framework allowing them to design effective control strategies and to determine appropriate treatment levels that would lead to the eradication of TB. The model can be used to identify the programs that are counterproductive. Currently, the study says, treatment failure rates in developing countries are probably much higher than in developed countries with good control programs. To stop control programs from being counterproductive, the treatment failure rate in developed countries should be less than 40 percent and less than 10 percent in developing countries.

The World Health Organization's Tuberculosis Control Strategy, timed to be in place by the year 2000, is to treat about 60 percent of all persons who have active TB worldwide, with a target of treating 51 percent in low income developing countries, 72 percent in middle income developing countries and 67 percent in developed countries. Using the mathematical model, though, researchers found that the WHO strategy would not lead to the global eradication of TB.

Karen Preuss

Klausner, left, and Pelosi at the Southeast Health Center in San Francisco

Klausner, Pelosi tackle breast cancer

On the forefront of research linking environmental factors to breast cancer Richard Klausner, director of the National Cancer Institutes of Health, spoke recently to an audience at the Southeast Health Center in San Francisco's Bayview-Hunters Point District.

Upon the invitation of Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, Klausner discussed the current status of breast cancer treatment and research. Pelosi, who reported on the budget battle for women's health priorities, also held a town hall meeting on breast cancer on July 27.

The UCSF Mobile Mammography Van staff provided free mammograms for women in the area, where breast and cervical cancer rates are significantly higher than the rest of San Francisco.

Study sheds light on 'safe sun' practices

To improve skin cancer prevention rates, health education programs must address positive and negative attitudes about sun exposure and barriers to preventive behavior, UCSF researchers say.

"Well-designed interventions should include coordinated media campaigns aimed at decreasing perceptions of 'tan is beautiful' while increasing perceptions of the harmful effects of sunlight," says Barbara Gerbert, a researcher in the UCSF Division of Behavioral Sciences. "Such efforts may be helpful in encouraging people to practice more and better skin cancer preventive behaviors."

Nearly 750,000 Americans are diagnosed with skin cancers every year. About 90 percent of skin cancers are caused by exposure to sunlight, and about 90 percent of the visible age-related skin changes that occur are caused by ultraviolet light.

To explore why people do or do not engage in skin cancer prevention, Gerbert and other UCSF researchers conducted in-depth discussions with study participants. Among the themes to emerge from the study:

- Sun lovers noted many "benefits" from being out in the sun: looking better, improving self-esteem, getting vitamin D, feeling good and enjoying the outdoors.
- Those least concerned about sun exposure said that they did not often think about using sunscreen, and many had been sunburned.
- Low-concern individuals easily generated a list of negative effects of the sun but did not view them as being serious. High-concern people considered melanoma and sun-induced aging to be serious health issues.
- Those most concerned about sun damage know people who had suffered from skin cancer or other types of skin problems.
- Respondents listed numerous problems associated with sunscreens, including that they are expensive, messy and a "hassle to put on."

— Rebecca Higbee

Fresno close to merging county teaching hospital

By JOE ROSATO

In a preliminary vote July 26, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors approved a 30-year, $1.5 billion plan by the Fresno-based Community Hospitals of Central California to take over the county-operated Valley Medical Center, a teaching hospital affiliated with UCSF.

Because legal contracts detailing the agreement are not yet completed, the supervisors put off a final vote until Aug. 27. If approved, the action would end Fresno County's 131-year history in the public hospital business.

A teaching hospital in the Central San Joaquin Valley for more than 80 years, VMC became formally affiliated with UCSF with the birth in 1975 of the UCSF-Fresno Medical Education Program. VMC is the site for nearly two-thirds of UCSF-Fresno postdoctoral training.

Under the proposed merger, CHCC would take over VMC in October or November, operating it for five to eight years. CHCC also would provide care for indigents and inmates and build a new Level 1 burn and trauma unit as part of a downtown regional medical complex. County officials estimate that up to 80 percent to 85 percent of VMC's 1,500 employees would find jobs in the CHCC system.

CHCC would be paid $17.5 million by the county annually for 30 years. With an annual adjustment based on the California Urban Price Index, the total payment would approach or exceed $1.5 billion, according to county estimates.

The merger was one of two options presented to the supervisors. The other option would have drastically downsized VMC and its clinics, creating what one county official said would be a bare-bones institution.

Nearly one-fourth of the physicians practicing in the San Joaquin Valley completed some portion of their internship or residency training at VMC, including UCSF-Fresno Associate Dean H. John Blossom, who was a family practice resident from 1971 until 1973.

More than 30 speakers opposed the merger, telling the supervisors there were still too many unanswered questions and that the proposed merger should be put to a vote of the people.

KS (from page 1)

tion, 13 percent, occurred among persons with syphilis who visited a clinic for the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

The UCSF group also found a significantly higher incidence of anti-HHV8 antibodies, 28 percent, in the blood of HIV-positive STD clinic patients, compared to an 8 percent infection rate among HIV-negative clinic visitors.

In contrast, the UCSF researchers measured low HHV8 infection rates, between 2 to 3 percent, both in hemophiliacs infected with HIV through blood transfusions before the advent of HIV screening in 1985, and in HIV-negative blood donors.

Striking about 20 percent of AIDS patients, KS causes disfiguring skin lesions and sometimes grows in the gastrointestinal tract or in the lungs, where it may cause respiratory failure and death. In the US, KS rarely arises in persons who are HIV-negative, but in recent years researchers have become more certain that infection with the AIDS virus, HIV, is not the only risk factor for developing KS.

Last year, Ganem's research team became the first to successfully isolate and grow HHV8. The UCSF scientists and research groups elsewhere now have found evidence of HHV8 infection in virtually all cases of KS that have been examined in AIDS patients, as well as in most KS lesions from the HIV-negative cases that have been studied, Ganem says.

Once the UCSF researchers found a way to grow substantial quantities of HHV8 virus in cell cultures, Kedes was able to develop the blood test that served as a basis for the new epidemiological study.

The pattern of KS incidence, in which HIV-positive homosexual men are more often affected than HIV-positive hemophiliacs, has been known for several years. This knowledge was what first led KS researchers to search for a sexually transmitted disease agent, Ganem explains.

"Recent findings placed HHV8 at the scene of the crime but did not establish guilt," Ganem says. "We wanted to find out if the epidemiology of HHV8 resembles what we already know about KS. Specifically, we wanted to know if differences in HHV8 infection rates among certain groups parallel the differences in the incidence of KS."

The new study shows that incidence of HHV8 infection in these groups does in fact mirror the incidence of KS, and this is strong evidence that HHV8 plays a role in KS, UCSF researchers conclude.

"We are making good progress," Ganem says. "We hope that improvements in the antibody test for HHV8 infection will soon make it suitable for use in diagnostic testing by clinical laboratories."

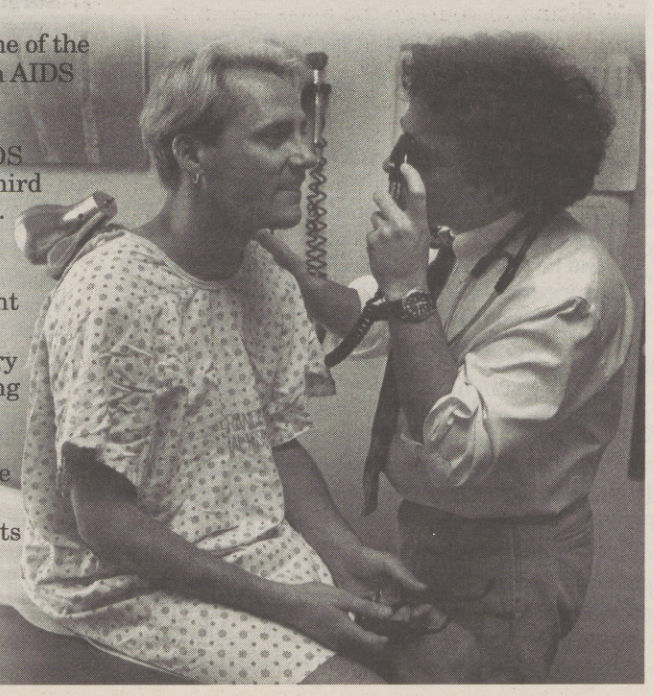
INSIDE UCSF

SFGH ranks first in AIDS care

These 1995 statistics are some of the reasons SFGH ranks No. 1 in AIDS care. (See story on page 8.)

- SFGH cares for 2,400 AIDS patients — roughly one-third of all San Francisco cases.
- Expanded inpatient bed capacity to 24.
- Provided 28,000 outpatient clinic encounters.
- Provided 5,000 ambulatory clinic encounters, including weekend/holiday urgent care.
- Averaged 8.7 primary care visits per AIDS patient.
- Hospitalized AIDS patients for an average length of stay of 7.1 days.

Source: Gayling Gee, nursing administration, SFGH



Aug. 24-Sept. 13, 1996

24 Saturday

UCSF AT GIANTS GAMES

UCSF sponsors a booth with information about its services and programs during pre-game festivities at the San Francisco Giants games on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 24 and 25. 3 Com Park. 1 p.m.*

27 Tuesday

NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: S 214. 8:30-10:30 a.m. Call Lenard Florendo at 476-1073 to schedule.

FAMILY COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP SERIES: Each Tuesday through Oct. 1. Dinner and child care are provided. UCSF/Mount Zion Pediatrics & Teen Services, 2330 Post St., Suite 320. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Call 885-7742 for reservations.*

INSTITUTE OF HEALING ARTS AND SCIENCES MEDITATION CLASS: 6:30-9:30 p.m. Call 563-4459 for location.*

28 Wednesday

BROWN BAG LECTURE SERIES: *Will To Live.* Ernest Rosenbaum, Med., discusses the key ingredients in the will to live: hope, courage, a positive attitude and good medical care. Sponsored by Public Service Programs. N 225. 12:10-1 p.m. Information: 476-4394.*

29 Thursday

TAY-SACHS SCREENING: For pregnant couples. Part of the California Tay-Sachs Disease Prevention Program. Sponsored by the Reproductive Genetics Clinic. 350 Parnassus, Suite 810. Opens at 9 a.m. Call 476-4080 for appointment and information.*

30 Friday

UCSF-FRESNO PRIMARY CARE FORUM

Two-day conference designed for family and general practice physicians, internists and all other medical personnel who assist in primary care. DoubleTree Hotel, Monterey. Registration $150 for physicians and $125 for all others. Information: (209) 225-6100, ext. 5557.

INSTITUTE OF HEALING ARTS AND SCIENCES PRESENTATION: *Holotropic Breathwork: Working With Non-Ordinary States of Consciousness.* Gilberto Mercado combines breathwork with modern consciousness research and ancient spiritual practices. N 721. Noon-1 p.m. Information: 330-5353.*

WATCH THE KIDS DO A PLAY

Members of Onstage, UCSF's Summer Day Camp for children, will present original plays. 1 p.m. Sponsored by Millberry Arts & Performances. Toland Hall. Free. Information: 476-6761.*

2 Monday

LABOR DAY

3 Tuesday

FAMILY COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP SERIES: (See item on Tuesday, Aug. 27.)

INSTITUTE OF HEALING ARTS AND SCIENCES MEDITATION CLASS: 6:30-9:30 p.m. Call 563-4459 for location.*

4 Wednesday

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Child & Elder Care Referral Service offers this 10-week caregiver support group for UC employees caring for elderly parents or relatives. Noon-1 p.m. C 258. Information: 476-2692.

BROWN BAG LECTURE SERIES: *Simplifying and Funding the Path Of Your Financial Future.* George Goin, retirement planning specialist, explains the four steps to financial independence. Sponsored by Public Service Programs. N 225. 12:10-1 p.m. Information: 476-4394.*

UCSF-FRESNO MEDICAL EDUCATION LECTURE SERIES BEGINS

Topics ranging from family and emergency medicine to the basic sciences will be discussed. Wednesdays from Sept. 4 to Nov. 20. 12:30 p.m. at Valley Medical Center and 4:30 p.m. at Veterans Affairs Medical Center, both in Fresno. Information: (209) 225-6100, ext. 5419.*

5 Thursday

OUTDOORS UNLIMITED SLIDE SHOW: *Mount Everest Ascent.* Mark Cole presents a photographic record of his ascent to the summit and discusses serious and sudden health issues at high altitude and the challenges of providing care with limited facilities and equipment. 7 p.m. Call 476-2078 for location.*

6 Friday

INSTITUTE OF HEALING ARTS AND SCIENCES PRESENTATION: *QiQong and Tai Chi.* K.C. Mao presents two ways for health preservation and disease prevention. N 721. Noon-1 p.m. Information: 330-5353.*

7 Saturday

STROKE AND STROKE PREVENTION

What is Stroke and How Can You Prevent It? Workshop provides an opportunity to consult with UCSF Stroke Service physicians and meet with nutritionists to discuss dietary issues and to have blood pressure and heart rhythm screenings monitored. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. N 225. Call 750-5342 to pre-register.*

LOW VISION FORUM: Storyteller Cherie Herzog reads excerpts from "Dancing in the Dark," a good-humored reference guide for those who are losing their sight. Forums are held on the first Saturday of each month. Main foyer, ACC. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call Frances Neer at 626-5313 for information.*

9 Monday

HOSPITAL NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: LPPI Auditorium. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Department personnel representatives call John Frank at 476-3001 to schedule.

NEW APPROACHES TO URINARY INCONTINENCE

Janis Luft, Women's Health, discusses the types and causes of urinary incontinence and the various treatment options available. Sponsored by HealthNet's San Francisco and UCSF medical groups. Herbst Hall, UCSF/Mount Zion. 10-11:30 a.m. Free. Information: 476-0373.*

BETTER VISION NOW. Richard Abbott, Oph., explains options for the correction of nearsightedness and astigmatism — from laser surgery to corneal implants. Beckman Vision Center, 8 Kirkham. 6 p.m. Information: 476-5021.*

10 Tuesday

NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: S 214. 8:30-10:30 a.m. Call Lenard Florendo at 476-1073 to schedule.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER PRESENTATION: *When I Was 14: A Survivor Remembers.* Gloria Hollander Lyon, a Hungarian Jew, speaks after a video about her experiences at Auschwitz and other concentration camps. Noon-1:30 p.m. HSW 303. Free. Information: 476-5222.*

LEARN ABOUT THE UC RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Learn about the features of the UC Retirement Plan and the Defined Contribution Plan. Sponsored by UCSF Office of Benefits and Financial Planning. Mission Center, Room 125. Noon-1 p.m. Call 476-6397 to confirm location.

FAMILY COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP SERIES: (See item on Tuesday, Aug. 27.)

INSTITUTE OF HEALING ARTS AND SCIENCES MEDITATION CLASS: 6:30-9:30 p.m. Call 563-4459 for location.*

11 Wednesday

BROWN BAG LECTURE SERIES: *Attending to Ritalin.* Lawrence Diller, Beh. Ped., discusses the social and ethical considerations of Attention Deficit Disorder and Ritalin in the 1990s. Sponsored by Public Service Programs. N 225. 12:10-1 p.m. Information: 476-4394.*

12 Thursday

FIFTH ANNUAL CHILI & SALSA COOK-OFF

Saunders Court. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (See item in Fun Zone on page 6.)*

INSTITUTE OF HEALING ARTS AND SCIENCES PRESENTATION: *Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction & Well-Being Program.* Ken Farber introduces a meditative approach to coping with stress, chronic pain and emotional suffering. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Call 441-3731 for location.*

13 Friday

INSTITUTE OF HEALING ARTS AND SCIENCES: *The Kind Way to Confront Our "Shadow."* Barbara U. Stannard explains how our faults can be traced back to childhood pain and how to transform them into the positive energy they once were. N 721. Noon-1 p.m. Information: 330-5353.*

ART SHOW DEADLINE

Faculty, staff and student artists interested in entering an artwork for the art show in October must have an application in to Millberry Arts & Performances by 5 p.m. today. Call 476-6761 for more information.

DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

For more information, call 476-4032.

Customer Service Strategies. Tuesday, Sept. 10. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. $90.

Interaction Management Tactics. Wednesdays, Sept. 11, 25, Oct. 9, 23, Nov. 6, 20. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. $300.

The Telephone: Your Most Important Business Tool. Wednesday, Sept. 11. 9 a.m.-Noon. $55.

Travel Expense Processing. Wednesday, Sept. 11. 1-4 p.m. $40.

Pre-Supervisory Training. Wednesdays & Fridays, Oct. 2, 4, 9, 11. 9 a.m.-noon. $100.

Vendor Payments. Thursday, Oct. 3. 8:30 a.m.-noon. $40.

Interaction Management Tactics. Thursdays, Oct. 3, 10, 24, 31, Nov. 7, 21. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. $300.

INFORMATICS CLASSES

The UCSF Library offers the following Informatics Training Seminars. Classes are held in S 165A Medical Sciences Building (MSB), the ILC. Classroom at 222 Library (LIB) and the San Francisco General Hospital Library (SGFH). Call 476-2337 for a complete schedule.

The World Wide Web. Monday, Aug. 26 & Sept. 9, & Thursday, Aug. 29. 2-4 p.m. SFGH.

Introduction to the Internet. Wednesday, Aug. 28. 9:30-11:30 a.m. SFGH.

Subject Searching on MEDLINE. Wednesday, Sept. 4. 3-5 p.m. SFGH.

Introduction to MEDLINE. Thursday, Sept. 5. 9-11 a.m. LIB.

Introduction to the Internet. Thursday, Sept. 5. 10 a.m.-noon. SFGH.

Health Care Reform Information Resources. Friday, Sept. 6. 10 a.m.-noon LIB.

The World Wide Web. Friday, Sept. 6 & Wednesday, Sept. 11. 10 a.m.-noon. SFGH.

Using EndNote (Windows). Monday, Sept. 9. 10 a.m.-noon. LIB.

Nursing Information Resources. Tuesday, Sept. 10. 9-11 a.m. SFGH.

Using EndNote (Macintosh). Thursday, Sept. 12. 9-11 a.m. MSB.

Introduction to the Internet. Thursday, Sept. 12. 5-7 p.m. SFGH.

COMPUTER TRAINING

Facilities Management offers the following classes for PC users. All classes held at the FM Training Room, 3130 20th St. Shuttles leave from UCSF/Mount Zion, Parnassus & SFGH. Half-day classes cost $135, full-day $215. Call 476-6825.

Word for Windows II. Tuesday, Aug. 27. 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Excel for Windows II. Tuesday, Aug. 27. 1-4:30 p.m.

Word for Windows III. Wednesday, Aug. 28. 8:30-noon.

Windows for Workgroups II. Wednesday, Aug. 28. 1-4:30 p.m.

Windows 95. Thursday, Aug. 29. 8:30-noon.

Excel for Windows III. Thursday, Aug. 29. 1-4:30 p.m.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

MEDICINE

Eleventh Annual Primary Care Medicine: Principles & Practice. Wednesday-Friday, Oct. 9-11. Ana Hotel, SF.

Minimally Invasive Techniques for Facial Rejuvenation. Thursday through Sunday, Oct. 17-20. SF.

Office-Based Orthopaedics for the Primary Care Physician. Thursday through Sunday, Oct. 17-20. SF.

Annual Advances Seminar in Urologic Surgery: Innovations in Urologic Surgical Techniques. Friday & Saturday, Nov. 8 & 9. Sheraton Palace Hotel, SF.

DENTISTRY

For more information, call 476-1101.

Dental Implants: Predictable Outcomes for the 21st Century. Friday & Saturday, Sept. 13 & 14. $289/$139.

Endodontic Insights: State of the Art Concepts & Methods. Friday, Sept. 20. $149/$99.

Medical Billing Strategies for the General Dental Practice. Saturday, Sept. 21. $149/$99.

CCDE Fall Participation: RDA/RDH Extended Functions. Sept.-Nov. $1,995.

Management & Utilization of Extended Functions Personnel. September. $149.

What's Happening

Regular Meetings and Ongoing Support Groups

Sunday

Healing Garden Working Days: Second & fourth Sun. of month. UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center Healing Garden, 2356 Sutter. Call 885-3693.*

Monday

Art for Recovery: Monday and Thursday afternoons. Cancer Cntr., Infusion Cntr., 2nd Fl. Information: Cindy Perlis, 885-7221.

Drop-in Support Group for Women Living with HIV/AIDS: Free child care and beverages provided. A 45. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 476-2417 or 476-7795.*

Health Professionals in Recovery: For physicians, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, PhDs and others. Anonymous, 12-step emphasis. Meets twice a month. Noon. Call 476-8279.

UCSF Staff Council Meeting Second Mon. of month. Noon-2 p.m. Call 476-5756.

Friends of Lois Al-Anon Meeting: Closed meeting: for friends & families of alcoholics only. Room 521, MCB. Noon. Call 626-5633.*

Breast Cancer Support Group: Starts Sept. 9. J 223, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 6:30-8 p.m. Information: 885-3693.*

Colorectal Cancer Support: Second and fourth Mon. of month. Room 114, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 6:30 p.m. Call 885-3693.*

Melanoma Support Groups For patients & family members. Meets monthly. Room 114, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 6:30-8:30 p.m.*

AIDS Health Project Meditation & Self-Hypnosis Workshop: Weekly discussion group for anyone dealing with HIV or AIDS in themselves or others. Gazebo Rm., Davies Med. Cntr. 7-9 p.m. Call 476-3902.*

Tuesday

SFGH Circle of Sisters: Monthly networking forum for black women working & studying at UCSF/SFGH. Call 476-5222.

Multiple Helpers Outreach Network Support Group: For victims & survivors of violent trauma. Ages 15 & over. A 222, LPPI. 10 a.m.-noon. Helpline at 759-7923 provided daily, 7 a.m.10 p.m.*

Exercise & Physiology Class for Cancer Patients & Survivors: Mount Zion Cardiac Care Gymnasium. 12:30-1:30 p.m. Call 885-3693.*

Campus Amnesty International Meeting: First Tues. of the month. MU 111W. Noon-1 p.m. Call 566-8406.*

UCSF Gospel Choir Rehearsal: Weekly at MCB. Noon. Call 476-6761.*

Parkinson's Disease Education & Support Group: For people with Parkinson's & their caregivers. Third Tues. of month. Christ Church, Lutheran, 1090 Quintara (at 20th Ave.). 2-4 p.m. Call 476-9276.*

Nurses' Pain Association Meeting: Second Tues. of month. C 254. 5:30-7:30 p.m.*

Brain Tumor Support Group: First Tues. of month. C 130. 7:30-9 p.m. Call 284-0208.*

Wednesday

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Association at UCSF Meeting: Second Wed. of month. Members of the Chancellor's Committee on Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Issues attend. Call 282-9650.

Support Group for Family/Friends of Those with Mental Illness: For those interested in psychiatric disorders & treatments. Call Laura Deering-Mayclin at 476-7394.*

Latin American Campus Association Meeting: Second Wed. of month. HSW 508. Noon. Call Lucia DeLeon at 476-2010.

Latin Women Coalition: For Latina faculty, staff & students. Noon-1 p.m. Call 476-7117.*

Parnasus Al-Anon Meeting: For friends & families of alcoholics. Observers welcome. C 417. Noon-1 p.m. Call 626-5633.*

Tai Chi Classes: Staff welcome. UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center. Healing Garden, 2356 Sutter. Noon. 885-3693.*

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting: Closed meeting: Alcoholics only. Conf. Rm. 3, 1st fl., MCB. 12:05 p.m. Call 621-1326.*

Multiple Helpers Outreach Network Support Group: For victims & survivors of violent trauma. Ages 15 & over. Two locations & times: A 222, LPPI, 1-3 p.m., and N 517, 7-10 p.m. Helpline also provided daily, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. at 759-7923.*

Trauma/Injury Support Group: Twice a month on Wed. SFGH Library, Bldg. 30, room 3101. 2:30-4 p.m. Call Laurie Barkin at 206-8402 or Dr. Yigal Ben-Haim at 753-1000.

San Francisco City Chorus Rehearsal: 7 p.m. Call 765-SONG for more information.*

Eating Disorders Support Group: Open to anyone dealing with an eating disorder in themselves or others. M 688. 8:30 p.m. Call 332-3425.*

Co-Dependents Anonymous Meeting: 12-step program for people with dysfunctional relationships. LPPI A119. 8-9:30 p.m. Call 432-3529.*

Thursday

AWAKE Meeting: Alert, Well And Keeping Energetic is a support and education group for people with sleep apnea and their families. Third Thurs. of month. Bring CPAP equipment for check-up. Call 885-7886.*

Dance Therapy Class for Cancer Patients and Survivors. Release tension, regain confidence in your body and explore personal meanings of illness. 10:30 a.m.-Noon. UCSF/Mount Zion Cardiac Care Center. Information: 885-3693.

UCSF Gospel Choir Rehearsal: Weekly rehearsals at Parnassus. Noon. Call 476-6761.*

Head & Neck Cancer Surgery Support Groups: Separate groups for patients and patients' families meet simultaneously on the second and fourth Thurs. of each month. J 221, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Cntr., 2356 Sutter. 1-2 p.m. Call 885-7623.*

Parnassus Players: UCSF's theater group meets regularly. Call 476-6761 or 255-9765 (day) or 821-5701 (evening).*

Association of Clinical Research Nurses Meeting: Meets every other month, alternating between UCSF & Stanford. 5:45-7:30 p.m. Call 476-0683.*

Support Group for Women Living with Life-Altering Illness: Alternate Thurs. 6-8 p.m. Call 775-2854 to pre-register.*

Friday

Circle of Sisters: Networking forum for black women working & studying at UCSF. Second & third Fri. of month. Noon-1 p.m. Call 502-5666.

Weight Watchers Meeting: S 159. Noon-12:45. Call 476-5193.*

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting: Closed meeting: alcoholics only. C 417. 12:10-1 p.m. Call 621-1326.*

Lakeside Senior Medical Center Caregiver Support Group: First Fri. of month. $10 per meeting. 2501 Ocean Ave. at Junipero Serra. 2-4 p.m. Call 986-2305.*

For information on 12-step and support groups call the Bay Area Self-Help Center at 6235 or the Mental Health Association of San Francisco at 882-6230.*

Newsbreak Deadline

Friday, Aug., 30, 1996 is the deadline for items to be listed in the next calendar, which covers Sept. 14-27, 1996 (two weeks). Complete information must be received in our office in writing by 11 a.m. on that Friday. Send information for calendar items to Brad Foss at (brad_foss@quickmail.ucsf.edu), mail it to Box 0462, send a fax to 476-3541, bring it to UCSF/Laurel Heights, 3333 California St., Suite 103 or call 476-3163. To submit an article for Newsbreak/Medsounds send email Lisa Cisneros at (lisa_cisneros@quickmail.ucsf.edu), fax her at 476-3541.

Breast Cancer Screenings

Women can have low-cost mammograms — X-rays to screen for breast cancer — from a mobile van that travels to convenient locations in the Bay Area.Women need the approval of their physician, in addition to their doctor's full name, address (including room number & zip code) and phone number to assure that results are mailed promptly. The procedure takes approximately 20 minutes and costs $65. Call 476-2193 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to make an appointment.* Listed below are dates when the van will be at UCSF locations. Call 476-2193 for a full schedule.

- Mon-Thurs., Aug. 26-29: UCSF/Laurel Heights, 3333 California St.
- Fri., Aug. 30: UCSF/Parnassus at Medical Center Way.
- Fri., Sept. 6: UCSF/Parnassus at Medical Center Way.

UPCOMING EVENTS

"Week of Caring"

UCSF sponsors the "Week of Caring," a time to provide community service, running from Monday, Sept. 16 to Saturday, Sept. 21. Last year, 400 UCSF volunteers worked in conjunction with the United Way and the San Francisco Volunteer Center to improve the lives of their neighbors.

This year, participants may help deliver meals to AIDS patients, build a sandbox for children or work with teen-aged mothers, among other activities. The deadline to register to volunteer is Friday, Aug. 30. The first 400 people to sign up will get a free T-shirt. For more information about the week, call Katherine Riordan, Public Affairs event coordinator, at 476-0729.

Managing managed care

Robert J. Margolin, UCSF associate clinical professor of medicine and medical director of the UCSF Integrated Practice Group, will explain, "Managing Your Way Through Managed Care," in a free lecture on Tuesday, Sept. 17 from noon to 1 p.m. in Herbst Hall, UCSF/Mount Zion. For more information, call 476-4394.

One-day TB course

A free one-day course for health workers, social service providers and other non-clinical staff who work with populations at risk for tuberculosis, will be held Wednesday, Sept. 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Francis J. Curry National Tuberculosis Center. This course will cover tuberculosis epidemiology, transmission, screening, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and infection control. There will be a lecture, discussion and breakout sessions. Registration begins at 8 a.m. The center is located at 3180 18th St., San Francisco. For more information, call 502-4600.

Transform your life

Neil Fiore, psychologist and member of the National Speakers Association, will give a free lecture entitled, "Transforming Your Life: How to Change Before It's Too Late," on Wednesday, Sept. 18, from 12:10 to 1 p.m. in room N 225. Participants will learn what it takes to add passion and clarity to priorities and to be more productive with their time.

Passport show

To raise funds for the fight against AIDS, celebrities Elizabeth Taylor, Ervin "Magic" Johnson and Sharon Stone will join forces with Macy's Passport '96, an event of fashion and compassion, on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 19 and 20.

The American Express Card sponsors this extravaganza at San Francisco's Fort Mason Center to benefit five leading AIDS organizations: American Foundation for AIDS Research, Magic Johnson Foundation Inc., Project Open Hand, The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation and UCSF/Macy's Center for Creative Therapies.

Now entering its 14th year in the Bay Area, Passport has raised $2.7 million for 100 AIDS groups since becoming an AIDS benefit in 1988. VIP dinner tickets and preferred seating for opening night are $250, $500 and $1,000. For reservations, call Project Open Hand at 252-2782. Tickets for the opening night reception and show are $40 and $50. All seats are reserved. Tickets are available at all BASS Ticket Centers or by calling (510) 762-BASS. For more information about the event, call the Passport hotline at 1 (800) 287-7426.

Women's health lecture

UCSF Women's Health nurse practitioner Janis Luft will speak on what today's woman should know about sexuality, heart disease and menopause. The free lecture, "Health Issues for the Prime Time," will be held on Thursday, Sept. 19, from noon to 1 p.m. in room 125 at the Mission Center. For more information, call 476-4394.

Workshop on childfree women

A workshop to examine the representation of childfree women in American culture will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., room S 172. Presented by Tracy Weitz, manager of the UCSF Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, and Beth Brown, a UCSF Women's Health researcher, this workshop explores the factors that contribute to women being childfree, such as infertility, postponement, choice, sexual orientation and opportunities. Participants should read "Childless By Choice" by Irene Reti prior to the workshop date. Pre-register by calling 476-5222. Cost is $25.

Guide to men's health

Men's health and the aging process, from sexual function to prostate disease, will be the topic of discussion at "Healthy Aging for Men: A User's Guide," a free lecture on Wednesday, Sept. 25, from 12:10 to 1 p.m., in room N 225 at UCSF. The lecture will be presented by Jay S. Luxenberg, UCSF clinical professor and author of "Residential Care: Your Role in the Health Care Team." For more information, call 476-4394.

Events promote diversity

A debate, film screening, poetry reading and lecture are planned for an upcoming series of free events to celebrate diversity and affirmative action, sponsored by the group Embracing Rainbows.

The pros and cons of Proposition 209, also known as the California Civil Rights initiative, will be held at Saunders Court, Thursday, Sept. 26, from noon to 1:30 p.m. The executive director of Equal Rights Advocates, Irma Herrera, and the CEO of Wall Street Analytics Inc., Ron Unz, will speak. On Thursday, Oct. 3, the film, "The Color of Fear," will be shown in Cole Hall at 7 p.m.

A poetry reading and live musical performance will be held on Friday, Oct. 18 at Toland Hall from noon to 2 p.m. Interested poets are invited to submit short poems on the themes of diversity, multiculturalism and affirmative action. Send submissions to: Embracing Rainbows Poetry Reading, c/o Nellie Wong, UCSF, Box 0988. Deadline for submissions is Monday, Sept. 30.
The series culminates on Thursday, Oct. 24 with a lecture by Rev. Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in room HSW 302. To help plan these activities, call Sylviaette Gamble at 476-5222.

Race for the Cure

The San Francisco Chapter of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer foundation will hold the Sixth Annual Race for the Cure on Sunday, Oct. 20 beginning at Sharon Meadow in Golden Gate Park. The organization is expecting 8,000 participants this year in both the 5K men's and women's run and the one mile walk.

Proceeds from the race finance educational programs, free mammography screenings and follow-up examinations for Bay Area women with limited resources, as well as numerous community breast cancer grants.

The UCSF Radiology Department provides a mobile van to the Foundation for this outreach program.

There is a registration fee of $18 prior to the event, or $22 on race day. Registration fee includes a T-shirt and goodie bag. Entry forms may be ordered by calling 1(800) 698-8699.

Party at Waterworld

Have fun with your colleagues and their families at the UCSF Family Picnic on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Waterworld USA in Concord. This park will be open exclusively to UCSF staff, students, families and friends.

Tickets are $10 per person for a barbecue lunch, beach volleyball, bingo games and live entertainment. Children aged 3 and under are admitted free. Tickets can be purchased at all EMPACT! ticket locations. Parking cost is $2.

Call for proposals

Burroughs Wellcome Fund

UCSF faculty may apply for several research grants and travel awards sponsored by the Burroughs Wellcome Fund (BWF). Program highlights are noted below.

■ UCSF may submit up to six nominations for Career Awards in the Biomedical Sciences, a program that seeks to enhance the scientific development of outstanding young investigators at the postdoctoral level though the first years of faculty appointment. Awards will provide up to two years of postdoctoral support or three years for individuals with an MD degree only and three years of support during the initial faculty appointment. Campus review is required. Applicants should submit three copies of all application materials to Academic Services, Box 0400, S 115, by Monday, Sept. 2.

■ UCSF faculty also may apply for travel programs for US scientists to train or to do research in the UK. The Hitchings-Elion Fellowship Program awards $150,000 to US scientists early in their careers in the basic biomedical and behavioral sciences. Applications are due Tuesday, Sept. 3, and should be sent directly to the BWF, 4709 Creekstone Dr., Suite 100, Durham, NC 27703.

Wellcome Research Travel Grants in the Biomedical Sciences & History of Medicine awards grants to enable established researchers in the US, UK and Ireland to visit colleagues to exchange scientific information or to acquire new techniques. Applications for this program should be sent directly to the BWF as well.

■ UCSF also may nominate only one candidate for each of three separate award programs in pharmacological studies, toxicology and experimental therapeutics. The goal of these awards is to identify and encourage the development of independent investigators whose work will bring new approaches and novel thinking to these scientific fields.

The scholar awards provide $400,000 over five years to scientists at the associate professor level; the new investigator awards provide $195,000 over three years to scientists appointed within the past three years to tenure-track positions as an assistant professor.

The deadline to submit materials to Academic Services is Monday, Sept. 23. Letters of recommendation are not required for campus review, but should be sent to the BWF once the applicant has been selected as a campus nominee. For more information or to get application forms, call Academic Services at 476-5742.

Latino Policy Research Fund

The California Policy Seminar invites UC faculty to submit proposals for research on topics of public interest relevant to the state's Latina/Latino population.

The deadline for proposals is Sunday, Dec. 1. Proposals should be preceded by a letter of intent.

A UC program that applies faculty research expertise to state policy concerns, the California Policy Seminar is offering about $100,000 in this grant competition to fund projects that address contemporary social and policy issues. Projects may use multidisciplinary approaches and comparative research methods, and contribute to the collection, cataloging and analysis of policy relevant information about the Latino population at local, regional and statewide levels. Projects may undertake new research, further ongoing research or develop findings from recently completed research into papers for a broad audience of scholars, state officials and the public.

For more information and applications, contact the Latina/Latino Policy Research Program, California Policy Seminar by phone at (510) 642-5514, by mail at 2020 Milvia Street #412, Berkeley, CA 94704 or by e-mail at: CA.PolSem@ucop.edu.

FUN ZONE

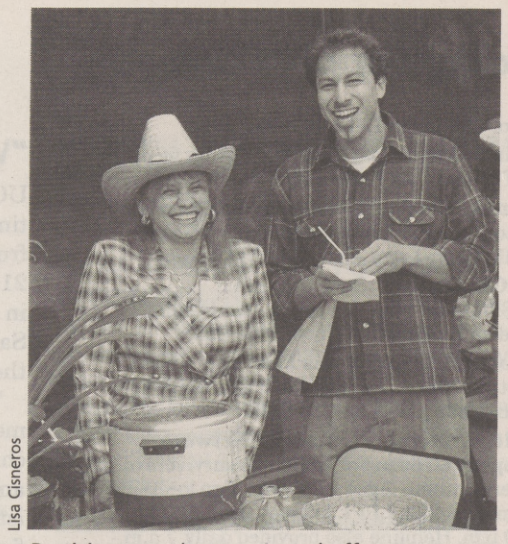
Get fired up at fifth annual chili cook off

Prove you have the best chili and salsa recipes to your colleagues on campus in the Fifth Annual Chili and Salsa Cook Off slated for Thursday, Sept. 12.

Those who can't cook can just come to eat. Tasting kits cost $3. Proceeds from this event go directly to employee programs and services.

Sponsored by American Home Assurance Co., the culinary contest will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Saunders Court.

Grand prize for the best chili and salsa is a 10-piece Circulon cookware set and the first place "People's Choice Award" for chili and salsa will receive a Little Pro Plus Cuisinart food processor. For an entry form, call Empact! at 476-2675.



Lisa Cisneros

Participants at last year's cookoff

Join Intramural sports

Fall sign-ups for intramural sports begin Monday, Sept. 9 and continue through Friday, Oct. 4. Intramural entry is based on a priority system that takes into account whether teams are made up of students, Millberry members and employees before opening up volleyball, flag football, indoor soccer and towerball to the public. For more information, call 476-0356.

Tennis tourney time

The Empact! Sports Program (ESP) and UCSF Staff Tennis Board offer a UCSF mixed "Doubles or Nothing" tennis tournament on Saturday, Oct. 12, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway Ave. No partner is required as players rotate. Prizes will be awarded. Pick up an entry form at the Millberry Fitness Desk. For more information, call Alan Tower at 476-1115.

Be a player

The campus theater group, Parnassus Players, now meets for improvisation and readings the first Tuesday of every month in the Millberry Union Conference Center, unless otherwise noted. The group performs throughout the year and welcomes actors, directors, playwrights and stage crew for upcoming shows. Rehearsal times vary according to project. For more information, call 921-3231.

Michele Firpo

Crews at the Central Utilities Plant project install structural steel, a process expected to last several weeks.

Sending structural steel skyward

As construction of the Central Utilities Plant continues, the campus community on Parnassus will experience intermittent increases in noise as the steel is being bolted together. Noise will be minimized as much as possible by use of special bolts.

Traffic on Medical Center Way will be subject to minor delays while trucks delivering steel maneuver into position. A flag man is on duty.

UCSF is building a cogeneration plant to generate electricity and steam in a project expected to be completed in fall 1997. For more information, call the project hotline at 502-7287.

MEDICAL CALL BOARD

Alzheimer's disease

UCSF seeks healthy individuals with mild to moderate Alzheimer's who are 60 years old and older. Study is a six-month, double-blind trial of the natural hormone DHEA. Experimental medication and test results will be provided at no charge. Call Mirit Friedland at 476-5858 for more information.

Diet, cholesterol

Investigators from the Cardiovascular Research Institute are conducting a study at the General Clinical Research Center on the effect of diet on blood cholesterol levels. Researchers are recruiting healthy non-smoking women between the ages of 20 and 40 who are taking oral contraceptives to take part in this outpatient study. All meals are provided for six weeks. Blood is drawn five times during the study. Participants will be paid $250 upon completion of the study. Interested individuals should call 476-7931 for more information.

Bone density

Researchers from the UCSF Osteoporosis Research Programs are seeking women volunteers for a study on bone density measurements.

Study participants must be between the ages of 60 and 85, and must have broken a hip within the last two years. Each qualified participant will be given a free bone density measurement test and will be reimbursed $75 for participating. For more information about the study, call 476-8447.

Memory research

The UCSF/Mount Zion Institute on Aging is conducting research into how memory is affected by medications and hormonal changes. Doctors need both healthy older adults and people with early Alzheimer's disease to participate. Each study involves three or four visits. All participants will receive free health and memory evaluations. Participants will be reimbursed as well. For more information, call Laura Sands at 750-4175.

Library offers electronic journal conveniences

An interface to MEDLINE is now available via the World Wide Web on Galen II. Called Medsage, the interface was developed by the UCSF Library and Center for Knowledge Management to make searching MELVYL MEDLINE Plus easier.

Medsage is available to all UCSF faculty, students and staff from the UCSF campus network or by dialup. Just click the Medsage link on the GALEN II home page (http://www.library.ucsf.edu). A forms-capable Web browser, like Netscape, is required.

Medsage eliminates the need for complex MELVYL search commands; features Quick Search for very basic searches and Full Search for more precise searches; offers several display and downloading options and links search results to complete articles from the Red Sage electronic journals collection

Medsage links to the Red Sage electronic journal collection require a UCSF network connection and a password. For information on how to obtain an account, visit the Red Sage home page at (http://redsage.ucsf.edu).

Red Sage, the collection of electronic journals, is now easier than ever to access. The UCSF library is now providing access to the latest three years of 70 biomedical journals, exactly as they appear in printed form, via the Web on GALEN II.

Red Sage provides 24-hour access to Red Sage journals from a personal computer and alerts users to new articles on topics of interest. It also allows users to print out articles on the local printer. Red Sage links to Medsage.

The Red Sage electronic journal collection is available to all UCSF faculty, students, and staff. Just click the Red Sage link on the GALEN II home page (http://www.library.ucsf.edu). A graphics-capable Web browser,like Netscape, and a UCSF network connection are required.

The Red Sage electronic journal collection requires a password. Those who do not have an account can submit a completed user registration form. Copies of the form are available from the library's information desk (3rd floor) or Interactive Learning Center (2nd floor).

UCSF hosts trade fair

Small, minority- and women-owned suppliers seeking to do business with the University will be part of a mini trade fair to be held on Wednesday, Sept. 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lobby of the Medical Sciences building. Seven suppliers will be exhibiting at the fair, which is sponsored by the Materiel Management Department and the Affirmative Action Office. For more information, call 502-3041.

UCRS posts election results

Patricia E. Erickson, a senior human resources specialist with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, was re-elected to the non-Academic Senate seat of the UC Retirement System (UCRS) Board. The current board includes Duncan A. Mellichamp, chair, of UCSB; Patricia A. Small, vice chair, Treasurer of the UC Regents; V. Wayne Kennedy, UCOP; Julia Armstrong, UC Santa Cruz; Cheryl F. Hagen, UC Riverside; Steve Sugarman, UC Berkeley; Robert H. Drake, Los Alamos National Laboratory; and Erickson. The board advises the President of the University on the University Retirement Plan, the Defined Contribution Plan and the Tax-Defered 403 (b) Plan, which hold assests of more than $23 billion and represent retirement interests of more than 165,000 UCRS members.

Medsounds

Brown & Toland (from page 8)

The UCSF Medical Center relies on San Francisco for more than 40 percent of its inpatient volume and local patients are critical to UCSF's growing commitment to primary care training programs in general internal medicine, pediatrics and family medicine.

And while the visibility of a possible UCSF/Stanford corporation might boost enrollments somewhat, the primary care markets of the two universities are geographically distinct. If the Stanford merger becomes a reality, the new corporation will need to pursue primary care strategies that work in both local markets.

What happens next?

UCSF and CPMG officials are now working to integrate the two physician groups under a single governance structure, to transfer UCSF at-risk contracts for local HMO care to Brown & Toland and to turn over UCSF administrative functions to a separate management services organization with offices on Sutter Street.

Educating the public, payers and faculty on how the partnership will affect them is part of the plan to ensure a smooth transition, Wintroub says.

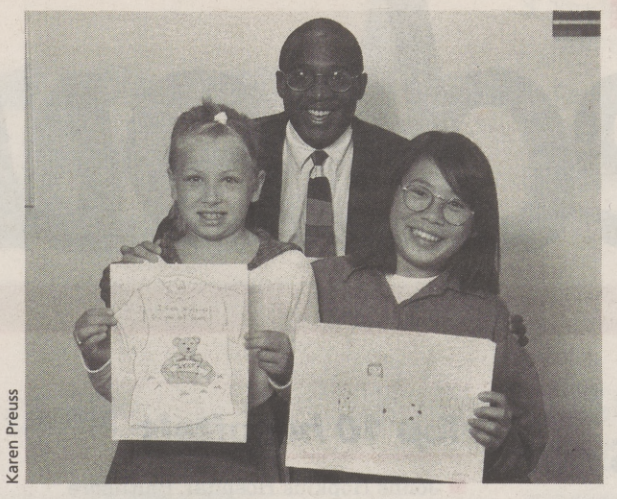
UCSF will begin marketing the new group for the fall open enrollment period. Health plan members who choose Brown & Toland Medical Group for their care will have access to more than 300 primary care physicians with offices located within 22 of the 24 residential zip codes in San Francisco. Enrollees who need specialty care will be able to be referred by their primary care physicians to any of the specialists affiliated with the group. Since the new group will have provider contracts with most of the HMO health plans serving San Francisco, Brown & Toland physicians' enrollees will not have to worry about having to switch physicians if their health plan changes.

UCSF will hold meetings to educate faculty and staff about the partnership in the fall. Its roster of physicians under the Brown & Toland Medical Group listed in payer directories includes all primary care physicians from the UCSF Medical Group and those specialists who met HMO requirements for patient access. The services of all UCSF specialists will be available to the group, Wintroub says.

All Brown & Toland physicians will be subject to managed care policies and procedures that are very similar to the ones that UCSF has developed for its own capitated care operations.

Because UCSF Medical Group brings to Brown & Toland a small fraction of the total managed care enrollment, UCSF will have a minority position on the governing board. Initially, UCSF will designate two of the 14 directors of the group and one member of the five-person executive committee (who will be one of the UCSF-designated directors). All UCSF-designated directors will be physicians. If and when Brown & Toland enrollment exceeds 200,000, the number of UCSF-designated directors will increase to three.

The new group will have a single management organization for contracting and marketing services, provider relations, claims processing and other operations, resulting in consistent administrative practices between both groups. About 30 UCSF employees working in the Integrated Practice Office, which administers managed care plans for the UCSF Medical Group, will be laid off as a result of consolidation of administrative services. Those employees received career counseling recently and are now participating in on-the-job computer training to boost their job skills.



Karen Preuss

Student artists get accolades

Two San Francisco students, Wendy Wu, right, and Alisa Baringolts, were named winners of a T-shirt design contest sponsored by the UCSF/Mount Zion Pediatrics Group. Wu, 14, and Baringolts, 9, receive congratulations from Carl Johnson, assistant clinical professor of pediatrics, at a recent awards ceremony. The contest focused on the importance of childhood immunizations.

Intern learns management at Mount Zion

Harvard University graduate Cecilia LaFleur is getting an upclose look at the inner workings of an urban hospital during a management internship at UCSF/Mount Zion Medical Center this summer.

Sponsored by the American Hospital Association, the Institute for Diversity in Health Management internship places 200 college students in hospitals around the country for a 12-week intensive program.

LaFleur

LaFleur, who was raised in Pittsburg, Calif., graduated from Harvard in June with a bachelor's degree in the history of science. She plans to pursue a master's degree in public health.

In the meantime, her internship is giving her broad experience in understanding medical center policy and programs. She spends some of her time shadowing UCSF/Mount Zion Director Martin Diamond as he attends various management meetings. "It's a stimulating experience for our medical center community to have a student with us who is eager to learn and asks provocative questions," says Diamond.

LaFleur serves on a committee to implement new emergency room protocols on domestic violence. LaFleur has been working with physicians, nurses, social workers and community representatives on ways the emergency room can be even more responsive to patients who are victims of domestic violence. A September training for the staff is expected to emerge out of the committee's effort.

"The staff must be able to provide information, resources and let the patient know there is help. These protocols provide one more tool to help a patient. It's very important work," LaFleur says.

LaFleur has had an opportunity to work with people on programs that emphasize quality assurance and improvement as well. The internship is funded by a grant from Mount Zion Health Systems and is earmarked from the Chancellor's fund.

— Dale Martin

Traffic (from page 1)

the Bay Bridge, exit I-80 at Fremont Street, Fifth or Ninth streets. The Mission Street/South Van Ness on and off ramps for 101 should be used only as a last resort.

Once the upper deck has been removed, the two westbound lanes which exit onto Fell Street will be reopened, but plans for restoring eastbound access and determining the final configuration of the central freeway remain to be seen.

Demolition is expected to last six months, but because work may begin in 1997 to build a permanent replacement for the structure, Caltrans advises all drivers to become accustomed to alternate routes, carpooling, vanpooling and public transit to get around the City without relying on the central freeway.

Informing the masses

UCSF is informing patients and employees about alternate routes to the Parnassus and Mount Zion campuses. Directions and maps like the one at right will be available at information desks and clinics throughout the campus and Medical Center. UCSF parking permit holders and vanpool riders will receive the information in the mail.

In addition, signs will be posted on the streets of San Francisco directing motorists to UCSF and Mount Zion.

One way to minimize the traffic congestion is for employees to share rides with others, says Jon Gledhill, director of Parking & Transportation Services.

The good news is that seats are available on some of the East Bay vans, Gledhill says. UCSF has 14 out of its 31 vanpools in operation that commute to campus from the East Bay. Ranging in cost from $60 to $120 a month depending on travel distance, vanpools accommodate 15 passengers. Those who opt to drive full time don't pay for the ride while part-time drivers get a discounted fare. For more information about UCSF vanpools, call 476-1512.

Transportation Services also refers people to Vanpool Systems Inc., a national commuting service, and Rides for Bay Area Commuters, which arrange carpools by matching commuters to geographic locations and hours of employment.

Another option UCSF managers may consider to help ease rush hour commutes for employees is to stagger work hours without interfering with appropriate levels of patient care or other services. Traffic into the City is typically heaviest between 7 and 9 a.m. while departing traffic is heaviest from 4 to 7 p.m. Campus policy allows for local department discretion to offer flexible work hours, according to Mary Henry of Human Resources. "People are usually pretty responsive when things get really bad. We had a lot of flex time after the earthquake," she says.

Indeed, Gledhill says that Transportation Services will consider what can be done once it determines whether the closure of the central freeway will lead to epic gridlock. "We'll have a pretty good idea after Labor Day, when the work year gets into full swing, what needs to be done," Gledhill says. "Commute modes will begin to change at that time and options can be considered."

The UCSF shuttle service is expected to remain the same. Establishing additional shuttle services to augment public transportation between BART and the main campus has been considered and may be implemented if demand warrants service and resources can be found, Gledhill says.

In addition to routes to UCSF's various locations, UCSF offers shuttle service from BART's 16th and Mission street station to Mission Center from 6:30 to 9 a.m. and from 3:30 to 8 p.m. weekdays. UCSF also offers shuttle service from BART's 24th Street station to SFGH from 6:10 to 9:15 a.m. and from 2:30 to 7:10 p.m.

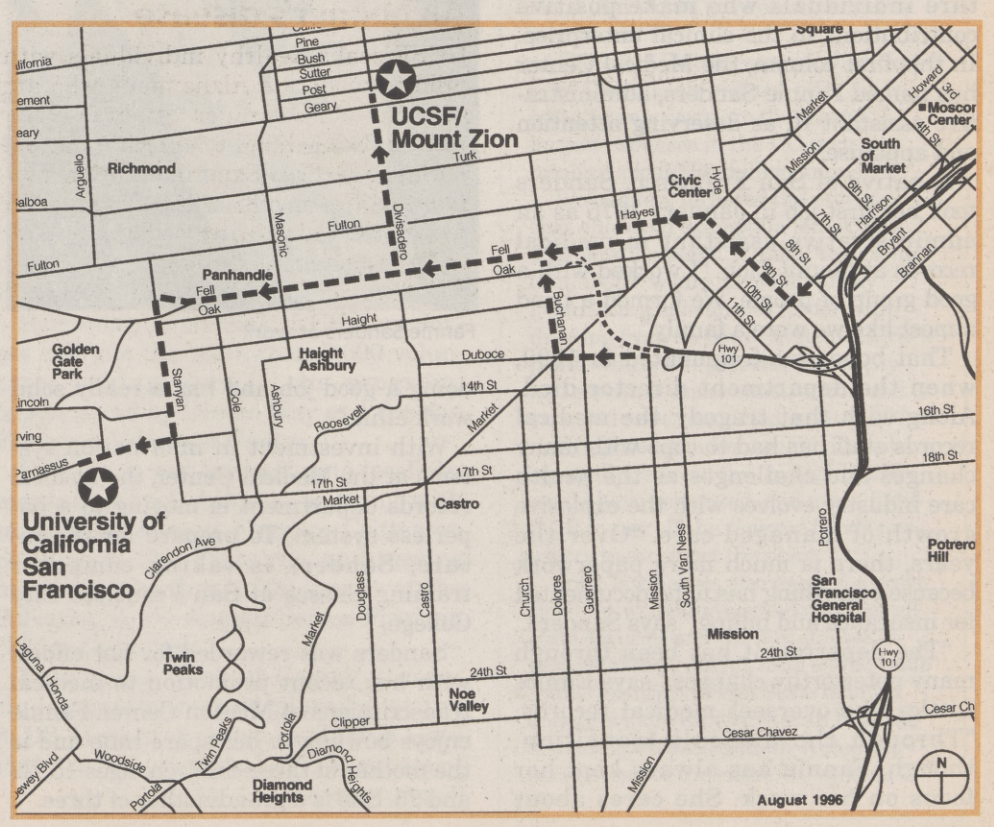
To alleviate morning rush hour traffic, there will be no parking on several San Francisco streets including Ninth, Hayes and Oak. Caltrans is expected to demolish the sections of the central freeway that cross over streets on weekends to lessen disruption of weekday traffic. Plans involve collapsing the upper deck on to a pile of dirt on the lower deck, removing the debris and then reopening the lower deck.

As part of its community outreach program, Caltrans will hold public meetings to discuss impacts of the central freeway demolition project on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. at 25 Van Ness Ave., Room 330. For more information, call Caltrans at (800) 696-5408.

Directions to UCSF Medical Center from Bay Bridge

NINTH STREET ROUTE

Entering San Francisco from the Bay Bridge, exit at Ninth Street/Civic Center. Turn left (west) onto Harrison Street, drive one block and turn right (north) onto Ninth Street. Drive four long blocks and cross Market Street, turning left (west) onto Hayes Street. Drive four blocks and turn left (south) onto Gough Street, drive two blocks and turn right (west) onto Fell Street. Continue 19 blocks to Stanyan Street (past Masonic, get in the right lane of Fell and continue straight, as Fell veers to the left here). From the right lane, turn left (south) onto Stanyan Street. Continue eight blocks, then turn right (west) on Parnassus Avenue. Drive three and a half blocks to UCSF's public parking garage. The entrance is on the right. Entering San Francisco from Highway 101 North, take the Ninth Street/Civic Center exit and bear left (north) onto Ninth Street. Follow directions noted above.



UCSF
Medsounds

Medical Center News for the UCSF Campus Community VOL. 11, NO. 14 AUGUST 23, 1996

INSIDE

1 Coping with central freeway closure

1 Team finds evidence MS may be inherited, cause remains mystery

5 UCSF holds family day at Waterworld in Concord Sept. 28

UCSF, SFGH rank among best in US

By BILL GORDON

In what has become an annual summer announcement, a U.S. News & World Report survey ranks the UCSF Medical Center among the country's top 10 hospitals. And for the sixth year in a row, SFGH rates as the nation's best place for AIDS care.

Results of the survey of "America's Best Hospitals" appear in the Aug. 12 issue of the magazine, which ranks the UCSF Medical Center seventh overall on the "honor roll" of the nation's leading hospitals. To make the honor roll, a hospital had to rank among the top 10 in at least three of 16 specialties.

UCSF rates as one of the top ten hospitals in seven specialities, namely: AIDS, cancer, cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, neurology, and ophthalmology. UCSF also ranks among the hospitals listed as the best in the nation in geriatrics, gynecology, orthopedic care, otolaryngology, pediatrics, rheumatology and urology.

SFGH is ranked as the best hospital in the nation for AIDS care. SFGH also entered the rankings this year in gynecological care, listed as 41st.

Beginning with service to the first AIDS patients in 1980, SFGH has been a leader in AIDS treatment, research and prevention. "We have seen the epidemic grow to phenomenal proportions, often straining our ability to provide the best of services," says Richard Cordova, director. "And yet the dedication and perserverance of staff have made SFGH a beacon of light for people with HIV." Cordova acknowledged the long-standing partnership of SFGH and UCSF as the "cornerstone of services."

This is the seventh time U.S. News has compiled a list of "America's Best Hospitals," which the magazine describes as "the nation's top hospitals, magnets for the best and the brightest researchers and clinicians."

In 1990, the first rankings were based solely on reputation and covered 12 specialties. Four specialties have been added since that time, and reputation now counts for just one-third of a hospital's score. The other two-thirds of the score is based on death-rate statistics and a collection of measures, specific to each specialty, that physicians and social science researchers believe reflects quality of care.

A total of 1,961 hospitals were evaluated in the survey, conducted in conjunction with the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago. The rankings include the 126 hospitals that earned the highest scores in the 16 specialties. Rankings are available on the U.S. News Online. Go to http://www.usnews.com for listings.

Top 10 hospitals

- Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore
- Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.
- Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston
- UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles
- Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C.
- Cleveland Clinic
- UCSF Medical Center
- Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston
- University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston
- Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York (tied)

Source: US News & World Report, 1996

UCSF, CPMG form new medical group

By LISA CISNEROS

UCSF and California Pacific signed an agreement Aug. 5 to combine physicians from the UCSF Medical Group and the California Pacific Medical Group into an expanded network of San Francisco physicians.

Under the name Brown & Toland Medical Group, the single provider network will contract with HMOs and other pre-paid health plans to provide primary and comprehensive care to some 162,000 San Francisco enrollees beginning in January. By combining its medical group with CPMG for this type of managed care contracting, UCSF is expected to see many significant advantages, such as open access to the largest enrolled patient population in San Francisco and lower costs to administer managed care contracts.

Execution of the agreement follows approval in May by the UC Board of Regents to combine forces with CPMG, the most successful managed care physician organization in San Francisco, which brings more than 135,000 Bay Area enrollees to the partnership.

"Bay Area residents gain incomparable choice and access through our new partnership," says Michael Abel, president of CPMG, who will continue in that role for Brown & Toland. "We can bring them two renowned medical centers and a combined physician group made up of the best and brightest primary and specialty medical talent available anywhere, all under a single provider network."

Brown & Toland will provide comprehensive care to enrollees through a dozen HMO contracts and will contract with UCSF Medical Center, UCSF/Mount Zion and California Pacific Medical Center to share financial risk in providing physician and hospital services to patients.

The UCSF Medical Group will retain its contracting ability for other payer agreements including PPO and specialty care referral contracts.

"We are very excited about this new partnership," says Bruce Wintroub, executive vice dean of the UCSF School of Medicine. "We have set [Brown & Toland] up so patients will have the greatest choice in selecting their personal physician. Brown & Toland offers the largest possible network, with convenient locations and referrals for specialized physician services. We are combining the best of both private practice and the university worlds."

As managed care reduces the utilization rates for hospitalizations and specialty care, the affiliation with CMPG affords UCSF faculty and Mount Zion physicians the chance to compete to provide secondary care.

(See **Brown & Toland** on page 7)

What's in the name?

Doctors in the combined medical group selected the name, Brown & Toland Medical Group, to honor two of San Francisco's most visionary physicians: Charlotte Amanda Blake Brown and Hugh Huger Toland.

Brown fulfilled a lifelong dream in the 1800s by establishing Children's Hospital of San Francisco, an institution run by women, and dedicated to the health care needs of the City's women and children. Children's Hospital became part of California Pacific Medical Center in 1991 and continues Brown's mission to provide accessible, high-quality care to the City's families.

Toland, an eminent teacher and surgeon, founded Toland Medical College, which affiliated with UC in 1873. That school became the UCSF School of Medicine.

Medical Center says THANKS to Fannie

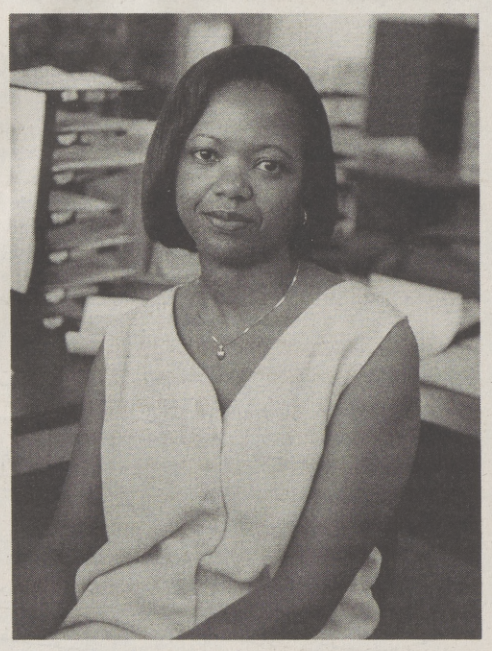
To honor, acknowledge and note kindness and service, the UCSF Medical Center has revitalized its employee recognition program under the acronym THANKS!

As part of that progam to show appreciation, Medsounds will regularly feature individuals who make positive contributions to the clinical enterprise. In this first column, the Medical Center has named Fannie Sanders, administrative assistant II, as deserving attention and applause.

A native of San Francisco, Sanders took her first job in January 1975 as an administrative assistant in medical records at Mount Zion. "I worked with a good group of people. We formed a bond almost like we were a family."

That bond was fragmented in 1990, when the department director died. Along with that tragedy, the medical records staff has had to cope with many changes and challenges as the health care industry evolves with the explosive growth of managed care. "Over the years, there is much more paperwork because everything has to be documented for insurance and billing," says Sanders.

"The department has been through many noteworthy changes," says Eunice Little, who oversees medical records. "Through the difficult transition, though, Fannie has always kept her focus on her work. She cares about doing a good job and has a really solid work ethic."



Fannie Sanders at work

With investment in information systems at the Medical Center, the medical records department is moving to a paperless system. To prepare for the future, Sanders is taking computer training classes at San Francisco City College.

Sanders was rewarded for her efforts with her recent promotion to medical transcriptions at Mission Center. Fannie enjoys bowling in her spare time and is the mother of three children, ages 15, 22 and 25. She is a grandmother of three.

Creating a learning environment

To prepare for the rapidly changing complexities of the current health care environment, the UCSF Medical Center will create an environment of learning so employees can improve their job skills and develop new ones.

In the midst of restructuring health care delivery, jobs are being transformed, in part, by the growth of managed care, the shift from inpatient to outpatient care and the development of information systems that, among other features, will computerize patient registration, records and billing.

"The world is changing and the market is demanding that we are much more patient-sensitive," says Bruce Schroffel, director of operations.

Indeed, according to recent estimates, 40 percent of all hospitals in the country have either implemented or are planning to implement some type of work redesign or patient-focused care strategy that will require staff to acquire a broader array of skills as well as knowledge about how their actions contribute to the ultimate success of the enterprise, Schroffel says.

To help employees keep pace with the changes, the Medical Center will start an education campaign this fall that offers courses designed to improve patient relations, computer literacy, sensitivity to diversity, effective communication and basic math and English skills to all levels of the organization. Some courses will be offered on the job, while basic lessons will be offered as electives and held in the evening.

The development of the PACE project to install a computer system that is more user-friendly for staff and patients alike and the formation of patient care teams on nursing units to provide more coordinated, cost-effective services to hospitalized patients are two recent examples of how the Medical Center is changing the way it does business. These processes represent a dramatic break from past practices and highlight the importance employee training will take in this ever-evolving industry. Watch for details about upcoming courses in future issues of Medsounds.